

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:77
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2000
OPEN SKIES AGREEMENT WITH US
ANNA SAHEB M.K. PATIL

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

- (a): whether the Government are negotiating with United States of America for `Open Skies` Agreement;
- (b): if so, the salient features thereof;
- (c): whether the Government proposed to accept open sky policy for the country;
- (d): if so, the advantages thereof; and
- (e): the policy of the Government regarding foreign airlines?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION
(SHRI SHARAD YADAV)

(a) to (d): During the inter-Governmental talks held in November, 1999, the Government of USA had proposed an Open Sky Agreement with India. As there were differences in views on certain substantive aspects, no agreement could be reached.

(e): India has an open skypolicy for cargo operations. The policy of the Government regarding passenger services is to ensure adequate capacity on all routes. The Government also envisages its national carriers to utilise unutilised entitlements through joint flights and code share arrangements.